

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 82001-0298 8[18[09 P# £6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Thomas Drolet, et al.) Art Unit: 2166)
Application No.: 10/020,188) Examiner: Not yet assigned)
Filed: December 18, 2001)
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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C., 2023.1	GROUP 3600 GROUP 350

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the attached International Search Report dated July 9, 2002 issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in a counterpart International application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication. The documents cited in the International Search Report were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449 filed June 14, 2002.

This information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) nor fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as "prior art" against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1349. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 24, 2002

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